

LETTER TO BE SENT TO (4)
TOP 100 NEWSPAPERS IN US

June 22, 1993

<prefix> <first> <last>
<title>
<name>
<add1>
<add2>
<city>, <state> <zip>

NO

Dear <prefix> <last>:

On January 7, 1993, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued its final Risk Assessment on Environmental Tobacco Smoke, declaring it a Group A carcinogen. There have been many valid scientific criticisms of that EPA action, including those which suggest that the EPA Risk Assessment is among the most flawed ever issued by the agency.

Today, the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, The Council for Burley Tobacco Inc. and Gallins Vending Company, along with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Philip Morris Incorporated and Universal Leaf Tobacco Company Inc., have filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina to have that EPA report declared null and void.

Among many other abuses, the EPA, when it could not otherwise reach its predetermined conclusion, simply changed generally accepted statistical practices to achieve its findings. In addition, the agency refused to incorporate two recent studies which, if included, would have negated its findings. The agency made numerous errors and omissions, and those mistakes were compounded by data manipulations that violate established principles of science, as well as EPA's own guidelines and principles.

Enclosed is our complaint, along with background materials that will allow you to put EPA's actions and our lawsuit into perspective.

We wish we could tell you that what the EPA has done about environmental tobacco smoke is unprecedented, that it is just an aberration aimed at an unpopular target. But it's not. The EPA's history regarding dioxin and alar indicate otherwise.

Tobacco may be unpopular to some, and the science can be quite complex. But in the courtroom, if EPA's predetermined judgments and mishandling of science are thoroughly scrutinized, we believe a significantly different understanding of the EPA's action and its treatment of environmental tobacco smoke will emerge.

Sincerely,

Dan Donahue
Vice President
R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company
12 Reynolds Building
Winston-Salem, NC 27102

Steve Parrish
Senior Vice President
Philip Morris U.S.A.
120 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

NOTE: Mr. Donahue and Mr. Parrish will be available for comment Tuesday afternoon, June 22, at 202-637-1500, ext. 527.

2501342572